

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

Also attached hereto is a copy of an abstract.

The claims and specification have been previously amended under PCT Article 34. These amended claims have been further amended to remove multiple dependencies for reducing the filing fee. Claims 9 and 13 have been amended to correct typographical/grammatical errors. Claims 19, 20 and 22 has been amended to correct the spelling of "vapor" to conform with U.S. practice. Claims 34-38 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 1-33 are currently pending. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Version With Markings To Show Changes MadeIN THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 39 has been amended as follows:

[CLAIMS] We claim:

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following claims have been amended as follows:

6. (Amended) Amino acid particles according to [any preceding] claim 1, in which the amino acid is leucine.

7. (Amended) A powder for use in a dry powder inhaler, the powder including active material and amino acid particles according to [any claims 1 to 6] claim 1.

9. (Amended) A [power] powder according to claim 8, in which the powder includes not more than 10% by weight of amino acid based on the weight of the powder.

10. (Amended) A powder according to claim 7 [or claim 8], the powder further including particles of a diluent.

12. (Amended) A powder according to claim 10 [or claim 11], in which the diluent has a particle size such that at least 90% by weight of the diluent particles have a particle size not more than 10 μm .

13. (Amended) A powder according to claim 10 [or claim 11], in which the diluent has a particle size such that at least 90% by weight of the diluent particles have a [particles] particle size not less than 50 μm .

14. (Amended) A powder according to claim 10 [or claim 11], in which the diluent has a fine particle portion having a particle size such that at least 90% by weight of the particle of the fine particle portion have a particle size not more than 10 μm and a coarse particle portion having a particle size such that at least 90% by weight of the particles of the coarse particle portion have a particle size not less than 50 μm .

16. (Amended) A powder according to [any of claims 14 or 15] claim 14, in which the powder includes not more than 5% by weight of the fine particle portion based on the weight of the powder.

17. (Amended) A powder according to [any of claims 14 to 16] claim 14, in which the powder includes not more than 95% by weight of the coarse particle portion based on the weight of the powder.

18. (Amended) A dry powder inhaler, the inhaler containing powder according to [any of claims 7 to 17] claim 7.

19. (Amended) A method of preparing particles of amino acid as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 3, the method including the step of forming solid amino acid particles from a [vapour] vapor or from a solvent, the method being such that the particles are formed while being suspended in a gas flow.

20. (Amended) A method of preparing particles of amino acid as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, the method including the step of condensing amino acid [vapour] vapor to form solid amino acid particles.

21. (Amended) A method according to claim 19 [or claim 20], in which particles of amino acid are formed by aerosol condensation.

22. (Amended) A method according to claim 20 [or claim 21], in which the method includes the steps of

- a) heating the amino acid so that the amino acid forms a [vapour] vapor;
- b) mixing the amino acid [vapour] vapor with cool air to form a cloud of condensed amino acid particles; and
- c) collecting the condensed particles.

23. (Amended) A method according to [any of claim 20 to 22] claim 20, the method including the step of heating the amino acid particles to a temperature of at least 150°C at ambient pressure.

27. (Amended) A method according to claim 24 [or claim 26], in which material to be dried comprises amino acid in aqueous solution.

28. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 24 to 27] claim 24, in which the droplets dried have a mean size of not more than 10 μm .

29. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 19 to 28] claim 19, in which the method is such that the MMAD of the solid amino acid particles produced is not more than 10 μm .

30. (Amended) A method according to claim 24, the method being such that the amino acid particles produced are amino acid particles according to [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 1.

31. (Amended) Particles of amino acid obtainable by a method according to [any of claims 19 to 29] claim 19.

32. (Amended) A method of making a powder according to [any of claims 7 to 17] claim 7, the method including the steps of mixing amino acid according to [any of claims 1 to 6 or claim 31] claim 1 with active material.

33. (Amended) A method of making a powder according to [any of claims 10 to 17] claim 10, the method including the step of mixing amino acid according to [any of claims 1 to 6 or claim 31] claim 1 with active material followed by the step of mixing the amino acid and active material with a diluent.